

UPI-54

12613
RTH

(CIA)Approved For Release 2005/03/29 : CIA-RDP75-00770R000100130027-1

WASHINGTON--THE CIA DECLINED TO COMMENT YESTERDAY
ON A CHARGE THAT IT TRIED TO "PAY OFF" AN ESTONIAN EMIGRANT SUING A
FORMER CIA AGENT FOR SLANDER.

ACCORDING TO PAPERS FILED IN FEDERAL COURT IN BALTIMORE, ERIK
HEINE OF REXFORD, CANADA, TURNED DOWN THE CIA OFFER, SAYING HE
REFUSED TO "AUCTION HIS HONOR."

HEINE IS SUING A FELLOW EMIGRANT, JURI RAUS, NOW AN ENGINEER
WITH THE BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS IN WASHINGTON, ON GROUNDS THAT RAUS
TRIED TO DISCREDIT HIM WITH EMIGRANT GROUPS BY CALLING HIM A SOVIET
INTELLIGENCE AGENT.

THE CIA HAS CONFIRMED THAT RAUS WAS A CIA OPERATIVE. THE AGENCY
SAID RAUS WAS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON ESTONIA--NOW A PART OF THE
SOVIET UNION--AND THAT HE PERFORMED "SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENTS" ALSO.

RAUS HAS CONTENDED THAT HE IS IMMUNE FROM PROSECUTION ON GROUNDS
HE WAS FOLLOWING CIA ORDERS.

4/23--JD1236PFS

Approved For Release 2005/03/29 : CIA-RDP75-00770R000100130027-1

LCH
RJD
JBU